

## Message Text

SECRET

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ORIGIN NODS-00

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DRAFTED BY S/S: PTARNOFF: GH

APPROVED BY: PETER TARNOFF

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO WHITE HOUSE IMMEDIATE

S E C R E T STATE 155491

NODIS

CHEROKEE EYES ONLY FOR DR BRZEZINSKI

FOLLOWING REPEAT MOSCOW 9580 ACTION SECSTATE JULY 5.

QUOTE S E C R E T MOSCOW 9580

NODIS CHEROKEE

FOR THE SECRETARY FROM TOON

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PGOV, US, UR

SUBJECT: APPOINTMENT WITH BREZHNEV

1. FOLLOWING IS MY TRANSLATION OF LETTER FOR PRESIDENT  
HANDED ME BY BREZHNEV AT MEETING IN KREMLIN THIS MORNING LAST-  
ING ONE HOUR AND FORTY MINUTES ON WHICH FULL REPORT WILL BE  
CABLED SOONEST:

BEGIN TEXT

ESTEEMED MR. PRESIDENT:

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I HAVE RECEIVED YOUR LETTER CONVEYED BY THE AMERICAN  
AMBASSADOR TO MOSCOW AND FOR MY PART I WOULD LIKE TO EXPRESS  
THE FOLLOWING THOUGHTS.

I THINK THAT THE CONVERSATIONS BETWEEN THE MINISTER OF  
FOREIGN AFFAIRS OF THE USSR AND THE SECRETARY OF STATE OF THE USA

IN MAY OF THIS YEAR IN GENEVA WERE IN FACT USEFUL AND IN A PRACTICAL WAY A NECESSARY STEP TOWARD WORKING OUT A NEW AGREEMENT ON THE LIMITATION OF STRATEGIC OFFENSIVE ARMS.

HOWEVER, AS YOU YOURSELF NOTE, THE DIFFERENCES BETWEEN THE POSITIONS OF THE SIDES STILL REMAIN SUBSTANTIAL. IN THIS SENSE THE DISCUSSIONS IN GENEVA DID NOT LEAD TO A SOLUTION OF A NUMBER OF PRINCIPAL QUESTIONS. FROM OUR SIDE AND IN THE COURSE OF THESE DISCUSSIONS STEPS HAVE BEEN TAKEN WHICH OFFER A POSSIBILITY OF A WAY TO FAIR MUTUALLY ACCEPTABLE SOLUTIONS, BUT FROM THE AMERICAN SIDE SUCH EQUIVALENT STEPS UP UNTIL THE PRESENT TIME HAVE NOT FOLLOWED.

NOTING THE DESIRE TO OVERCOME EXISTING OBSTACLES WHICH YOU EXPRESSED IN YOUR LETTER, I WOULD LIKE TO HOPE THAT IN THE DEVELOPMENT OF THIS THE AMERICAN SIDE WILL REACT IN A CONSTRUCTIVE WAY TO OUR PROPOSALS. IN DEED IN THE FINAL ANALYSIS THE CONCLUSION OF A NEW AGREEMENT IS NECESSARY NOT ONLY FOR THE SOVIET UNION. TO AN EQUAL EXTENT --WE ARE DEEPLY CONVINCED OF THIS-- IT IS NECESSARY FOR BOTH OF OUR COUNTRIES, FOR BOTH OF OUR PEOPLES, AS WELL AS FOR ALL OTHER COUNTRIES AND PEOPLES.

IT IS POSSIBLE AND NECESSARY TO FIND SOLUTIONS TO THE REMAINING QUESTIONS WHICH STAND IN THE PATH TO AGREEMENT. FOR THIS, AS WE HAVE SEVERAL TIMES STRESSED, IT IS IMPORTANT AT THE OUTSET TO BE GUIDED IN THIS MATTER BY THE PRINCIPLE OF EQUAL-  
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ITY AND EQUAL SECURITY, TO REALIZE AN IDENTIFIED MUTUALLY ACCEPTABLY BALANCE OF INTERESTS, NOT TRYING TO EXTRACT FROM THE MATTER ANY SORT OF UNILATERAL ADVANTAGE. ONLY IN THIS WAY IS IT POSSIBLE TO PREVENT A NEW SPIRAL IN THE ARMS RACE WITH ALL THE DANGEROUS CONSEQUENCES FLOWING FROM THIS AND WITH THE INEVITABLE POLITICAL AND OTHER COSTS. IT IS ALSO CLEAR THAT ANY OTHER DEVELOPMENT OF EVENTS WOULD REMOVE US FAR FROM THE GOAL OF RADICAL LIMITATION AND REDUCTION OF ARMS. I THEREFORE CALL UPON YOU ONCE AGAIN TO WEIGH THE STATE OF AFFAIRS WITH THE CONCLUSION OF A NEW AGREEMENT AND TO APPLY THE NECESSARY EFFORTS FOR THE RESOLUTION OF THE REMAINING QUESTIONS. FOR OUR PART WE AS BEFORE WISH AND ARE READY TO BRING THE MATTER TO THE SPEEDIEST WORKING OUT OF AN AGREEMENT AND ITS SIGNATURE.

ACCORDING TO THE MUTUAL UNDERSTANDING WHICH WE HAVE ACHIEVED WE ARE READY TO TURN OVER FOR FURTHER DISCUSSION BY THE DELEGATIONS IN NEGOTIATIONS AT GENEVA A NUMBER OF QUESTIONS WHICH HAVE BECOME RIPE FOR THIS AND WILL GIVE APPROPRIATE INSTRUCTIONS TO OUR DELEGATION ON THIS ACCOUNT. THE EXCHANGE OF OPINIONS ON QUESTIONS WHICH WILL REMAIN UNRESOLVED, AS WE

HAVE ALREADY AGREED, WILL BE CONTINUED IN THE COURSE OF  
MEETINGS BETWEEN A.A. GROMYKO AND C. VANCE SLATED FOR  
SEPTEMBER.

NOW WITH REGARD TO OUR MEETING WITH YOU. WE HAVE ALREADY  
BROUGHT OUR CONSIDERATIONS ON THIS MATTER TO YOUR ATTENTION.  
EVIDENTLY THEREFORE THERE IS NO NEED TO REPEAT THEM HERE.  
I WISH ONLY TO CONFIRM MY AGREEMENT THAT THIS QUESTION SHOULD  
BE MORE CONCRETELY DISCUSSED BY OUR TWO MINISTERS IN SEPTEMBER.

RESPECTFULLY,

MOSCOW, THE KREMLIN

30 JUNE 1977

L. BREZHNEV

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END TEXT

TOON UNQUOTE VANCE

SECRET

NNN

## Message Attributes

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**Capture Date:** 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
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**Decaption Date:** 22 May 2009  
**Decaption Note:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
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**Document Number:** 1977STATE155491  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** PTARNOFF: GH  
**Enclosure:** EYES ONLY FOR BRZEZINSKI ONLY  
**Executive Order:** GS  
**Errors:** N/A  
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**Original Handling Restrictions:** NODIS, ONLY  
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**Subject:** APPOINTMENT WITH BREZHNEV  
**TAGS:** PGOV, PPDC, PARM, US, UR, (CARTER, JIMMY), (BREZHNEV, LEONID)  
**To:** WHITE HOUSE  
**Type:** TE  
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**Review Markings:**  
Margaret P. Grafeld  
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